(b) if so, the amount spent on the modernisation of the first phase of the above Steel Plant;

(c) the target fixed for the modernisation of the second phase of that Steel Plant; and

(d) the steps taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Major production facilities for Phase-I of the Modernisation of Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) have been completed in March, 1994.

(b) An expenditure of Rs. 503.35 crores has been incurred in Phase-I of the modernisation programme upto June, 1995.

(c) The target date of completion of Phase-II of the modernisation programme is August, 1996.

(d) For timely completion of Phase-II of the modernisation programme, SAIL (RSP) have taken the following measures:

(i) Providing construction equipment support to the contracting agencies.

(ii) Making direct payments to sub-vendors for critical equipment supply as well as for site activities.

(iii) Organising vendors/sub-vendors interaction to resolve their problems for timely equipment supply.

(iv) Maintaining buffer stock for cement and steel to ensure its timely availability to the contracting agencies, wherever needed.

(v) Taking over the jobs from the defaulting contracting agencies in cases of unsatisfactory performances and executing the same through alternate agencies.

(vi) Monitoring the project very closely at Plant/Corporate and Government levels.

गन्ने की पैदावार वाले क्षेत्र में कमी

687. **प्रो॰ राम बक्ष सिंह वर्मा:** क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान गन्ने की पैदावार वाले क्षेत्र में निरंतर कमी आई है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(ग) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान गन्ने की पैदावार वाले क्षेत्र का जिलावार ब्यौरा क्या है?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अरविंद नेताम): (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न ही नहीं होता।

(ग) गन्ने के अंतर्गत जिला-वार क्षेत्र के संबंध में आंकड़े राज्यों से एकत्र किए जा रहे हैं।

Funding of mining projects by External Agencies

688. SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any external agencies have been funding the mining projects in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the funds made available during the last three years; and

(c) the progress made in implementing the projects and the extent of area covered, Projectwise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The details of the funds made available during the last 3 years and progress made in implementing the projects are as follows: